

CREATING AN ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

JUNE 8, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. BONNER, from the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 6850]

The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6850) to create an academic advisory board for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

This bill would amend the law (Public Law 214, 80th Cong., 1st sess., approved July 22, 1947 (61 Stat. 401)), which authorized the former United States Maritime Commission to appoint an Academic Advisory Board of the United States Merchant Marine Academy, consisting of not to exceed seven persons of distinction in the field of education. At present the Advisory Board is appointed by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 21 of 1950. Its duties are to examine the course of instruction and advise the Superintendent of the Academy relative thereto.

Under the bill the membership of the Board would not be restricted to educators, but would include persons of experience in other fields relating to the purposes of the Academy such as navigation and ship operation. Thus, it would become possible to broaden the scope of the Board's functions by appointing to it, for example, a representative of seafaring labor and a representative of the practical aspects of ship operation and company management.

The Board, as proposed to be reconstituted, would not only examine the course of instruction given to the students at the Academy, but would also be authorized to examine into the management of the Academy. The Board would make at least one annual visit during the academic year, and furnish a report to the Maritime Administrator relative to its examination of the course of instruction and academic

management. At present the Board's report is made directly to the Superintendent of the Academy.

Your committee believes that the changes in the Advisory Board proposed by this bill are very desirable, and should strengthen the effectiveness of the Academy.

While the bill does not attempt to specify appointments to membership on the basis of geographical distribution, your committee hopes that as new appointments are made the Secretary of Commerce will consider the home residence of prospective appointees, along with their other qualifications.

This bill follows the plan of the law establishing the Advisory Committee for the United States Coast Guard Academy, a comparable institution (14 U. S. C. 193).

The departmental reports follow:

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE,
Washington 25, November 4, 1955.

HON. HERBERT C. BONNER,

*Chairman, Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
House of Representatives, Washington 25, D. C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is in reply to your request of June 20, 1955, for the views of this Department with respect to H. R. 6850, a bill to create an academic advisory board for the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

The bill would amend the law establishing the Advisory Board for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, now located at Kings Point, N. Y., to provide that it consist of not more than seven persons of distinction in education and in other fields relating to the purposes of the Academy, to be appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Board would examine the course of instruction and the management of the Academy and advise the Maritime Administrator and the Superintendent of the Academy concerning the results of their examination.

At present, the Advisory Board is appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, pursuant to Reorganization Plan No. 21 of 1950, and consists of seven educators. The duties of the Board are to examine the course of instruction and advise the Superintendent of the Academy relative thereto (61 Stat. 401; 46 U. S. C. 1126d).

The bill would follow the plan of the law establishing the Advisory Committee for the United States Coast Guard Academy, a comparable institution (14 U. S. C. 193).

Under the bill the membership of the Board would not be restricted to educators but would include persons of experience in other fields relating to the purposes of the Academy, such as navigation and ship operation and management. The Board would not only examine the course of instruction given to the students of the Academy, as at present, but would also be authorized to examine into the management of the Academy and advise the Maritime Administrator in relation thereto.

An advisory board whose members possess the additional qualifications and duties prescribed in the bill would be qualified to suggest additional courses of instruction necessary in the education and training of the officers of a modern, progressive American merchant marine as envisaged by Congress when it passed the Merchant Ma-

rine Act, 1936. Such a board would also be able to propose any desirable improvements in the management of the Academy.

The Department of Commerce recommends enactment of the bill.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that it would interpose no objection to the submission of this letter to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

SINCLAIR WEEKS,
Secretary of Commerce.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as introduced, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italics; existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

PUBLIC LAW 214, 80TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION (61 STAT. 401)

AN ACT To create an Academic Advisory Board for the United States Merchant Marine Academy

[That the United States Maritime Commission is authorized to appoint an Academic Advisory Board of the United States Merchant Marine Academy which shall consist of not to exceed seven persons of distinction in the field of education who shall serve without pay. The members of the Board shall visit the United States Merchant Marine Academy at least once during the academic year for the purpose of examining the course of instruction and advising the superintendent relative thereto. The expenses of the Board while engaged in these duties, including the expense of travel, shall be defrayed under Government travel regulations from any appropriation for the authorized work of the Maritime Commission.] *The Secretary of Commerce may appoint an advisory board to the United States Merchant Marine Academy consisting of not more than seven persons of distinction in education and other fields relating to the purposes of the academy, who shall serve without pay. Members of the advisory board shall be appointed for terms of not to exceed three years and may be reappointed. The Secretary of Commerce shall, in June of each year, appoint one of the members to serve as chairman. The members so appointed shall visit the academy at least once during the academic year on the call of the chairman and may convene once each year in Washington, at the call of the Maritime Administrator, for the purpose of examining the course of instruction and the management of the academy and advising the Maritime Administrator, with a copy of such advice to the superintendent, relative thereto. The expenses of the board while engaged in these duties, including the expense of travel, shall be defrayed under Government travel regulations from any appropriation for the authorized work of the Maritime Administration.*

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It is a well-known fact that the American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, and the Federal Narcotics Act. These laws have been a great benefit to the people of this country, and it is the hope of the Association that they will be a great benefit to the people of the world.

The American Medical Association has been successful in its efforts to secure the passage of the Federal Food and Drug Act, the Federal Pure Food and Drug Act, and the Federal Narcotics Act. These laws have been a great benefit to the people of this country, and it is the hope of the Association that they will be a great benefit to the people of the world.

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